NEWS RELEASE

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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NEW TRANSPORTATION OPTION FOR SOME I-93 CORRIDOR COMMUTERS DEDICATED EXPRESS BUS SERVICE TO ANDOVER, MA COMPANY LAUNCHED FROM TWO NEW HAMPSHIRE PARK AND RIDE LOTS

As many as 350 Granite State residents who work at a Massachusetts biopharmaceutical company can now take advantage of a dedicated commuter bus service that operates between Andover, Mass. and New Hampshire Park and Ride lots in Londonderry (Exit 4) and Windham (Exit 3) off Interstate 93.

The new commuter express bus, which seats 49 passengers and two wheelchairs, began its service today with four morning departures from New Hampshire to Wyeth BioPharma (formerly Genetics Institute) in Andover. There will also be four evening rush hour departures from Wyeth to accommodate different shifts. The one-way fare for Wyeth employees is \$3.00.

This new transportation option is the first-ever collaboration by the states of New Hampshire and Massachusetts to provide subsidized commuter service from New Hampshire to a Massachusetts suburban employment center. The cooperative effort involves Wyeth, the New Hampshire Department of Transportation, the Massachusetts Executive Office of Transportation and Construction, the Merrimack Valley Regional Transit Authority and the Junction Transportation Management Organization (TMO).

The new bus service was developed to improve air quality, reduce traffic on Interstate 93 and local streets, and to provide employees with a less expensive, safe and efficient means of commuting. The NHDOT is contributing \$30,000 in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds to be used for preventative maintenance. This pilot project may help determine the viability of additional services as planning continues for the widening of I-93 in New Hampshire.

Wyeth BioPharma's Andover facility employs more than 1,600 researchers, scientists, and other biopharmaceutical professionals. Approximately 350 of those employees commute from New Hampshire. Regular New Hampshire riders of the commuter express bus will be eligible for a guaranteed ride home in case of unplanned overtime or a family emergency.